

Application/Control No.: 10/637,201
Response mailed August 25, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 23, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for adjusting the dispensation of material from a container having a shoulder when said container is supported by a dispenser comprising:

an elongated ~~[[a]]~~ tube having an inner diameter, a proximal end ~~portion~~ and a distal end portion, said proximal end ~~portion~~ adapted to receive said material from said container, said distal end portion adapted to dispense said material;

a flange attached to said proximal end ~~portion~~ of said tube, said flange operably sandwiched between said container shoulder and said dispenser, said flange adapted to keep said apparatus in contact with said container shoulder during said dispensation of said material from said container; and

a raised seal having a perimeter, said seal attached medially to said flange, said seal adapted to seal said apparatus against said container shoulder during said dispensation of said material from said container.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said tube is flexible.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said inner diameter of said tube is sized to operably permit at least a portion of said container to be positioned within said tube.

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4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said tube has a variable inner diameter.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said tube is tapered.
6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said proximal end portion of said tube is wider than said distal end portion of said tube.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said flange is comprised of a plurality of radially extending arms.
8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said flange is scalloped, said scalloped flange having a plurality of concave portions.
9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said concave portions of said scalloped flange do not inwardly extend inside said perimeter of seal.
10. (Canceled)

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11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said seal is a raised ring that extends away from said flange and away from said proximal end portion of said tube.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said flange has a diameter and said seal has an exterior diameter, and wherein said diameter of said flange is greater than said exterior diameter of said seal.

13. (Currently Amended) A plastic apparatus for adjusting the dispensation of caulk from the nozzle of a cylindrical caulk cartridge when said cartridge is supported by a caulk gun comprising:

a flexible tapered dispensation tube having an inner diameter, a proximal end portion and a narrower distal end portion, said inner diameter of said tube being sized to operably permit said nozzle of said cartridge to be positioned within said tube, said proximal end portion of said tube adapted to receive said caulk from said nozzle of said cartridge, said distal end portion of said tube adapted to dispense said caulk;

a scalloped flange attached to said proximal end portion of said tube, said flange having a plurality of concave portions, said flange operably sandwiched between said cartridge and said gun, said flange adapted to keep said apparatus in contact with said cartridge during said dispensation of said caulk from said cartridge; and

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a raised seal ring having a perimeter, said seal ring attached medially to said flange and extending away from said flange and said proximal end portion of said tube, said seal ring adapted to seal said apparatus against said caulk container during said dispensation of said caulk from said caulk container.

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said concave portions of said scalloped flange do not extend inside said perimeter of said seal ring.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said flange has a diameter and said seal ring has an exterior diameter, and wherein said diameter of said flange is greater than said exterior diameter of said seal ring.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for dispensing material comprising:
a container containing said material for dispensing;
a flexible extender nozzle having a tube, a flange, and a raised seal attached medially to said flange, said extender nozzle adapted to promote elongated dispensation of said material from said container; and

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a dispenser adapted to operably support said container and said extender, said dispenser also adapted to operably create a sealable contact between said container and said extender.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein said container is a cylindrical caulk cartridge.

19. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein said flange is scalloped.

20. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein said seal is a raised ring that extends away from said flange whereby a sealable contact is operably created between said extender nozzle and said container.

21. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein the dispenser is a caulk gun.

22. (Currently Amended) An elongated tube having inner and outer diameters and proximal and distal ends,

a flange projecting radially outwardly of said tube adjacent said proximal end thereof and having an upper surface facing toward said tube distal end and a lower surface facing away from said tube distal end, and

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an annular sealing ring having an internal diameter mounted on said lower surface of said flange and projecting away therefrom;

wherein said outer diameter of said proximal end of said tube is less than said diameter of said sealing ring.

23. (Currently Amended) The flexible nozzle extension of claim 22 wherein:
said flange has a scalloped configuration.

24. (Original) The flexible nozzle extension of claim 23 wherein:
said scalloped configuration of said flange includes a plurality of concave portions; and
inner extremities of said concave portions are disposed outwardly of said annular sealing ring.

25. (Original) The flexible nozzle extension of claim 22 wherein:
said elongated tube is substantially uniformly tapered inwardly from adjacent said proximal to said distal end thereof.

26. (Original) The flexible nozzle extension of claim 22 wherein:
said tube, said flange and said annular sealing ring are formed of one piece molded construction.

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27. (Original) A flexible nozzle extension comprising:

an elongated tube having inner and outer diameters and proximal and distal ends and tapering uniformly inwardly from adjacent said proximal end to adjacent said distal end thereof;

a flange having a scalloped configuration and projecting radially outwardly of said tube adjacent said proximal end thereof and having an upper surface facing toward said distal end of said tube and a lower surface facing away from said distal end of said tube;

an annular sealing ring mounted on said lower surface of said flange and projecting away therefrom,
said scalloped configuration including a plurality of concave portions with inner extremities of said portions being disposed outwardly of said annular sealing ring; and
and said tube, said flange and said annular sealing ring being formed integrally of a flexible plastic material.

28. (New) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said proximal end of said tube has a diameter and said seal has an interior diameter, and wherein said diameter of said proximal end of said tube is less than said interior diameter of said seal.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein said proximal end of said tube has a diameter and said seal ring has an interior diameter, and wherein said diameter of said proximal end of said tube is less than said interior diameter of said seal ring.